

Tracy L. Wareing

Director
Arizona Department of Economic Security



Tracy L. Wareing, Director of the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES), has been an advocate for children and families throughout her career with the State of Arizona. Director Wareing most recently served as Policy Advisor for Human Services to Governor Janet Napolitano, where she acted as a liaison between the Governor and DES regarding the state's social services programs, which include family assistance, child protective services, child support enforcement, employment and rehabilitation services, developmental disabilities, adult protective services and numerous community service programs. Director Wareing was also actively involved in the coordination and statewide implementation of the Governor's Action Plan for Reform of Child Protective Services. During Director Wareing's tenure with the Governor's Office, she also served as the Acting Deputy Director of the Division of Children, Youth and Families within DES. It was during this time-period that Director Wareing took a leadership role in the release of *Strengthening Families: A Blueprint for Realigning Arizona's Child Welfare System* (September 2005).

Prior to her service with the Governor, Director Wareing served as Chief Counsel for Protective Services at the Office of the Arizona Attorney General from June 1999 to June 2003. In that position, she coordinated the delivery of legal services to the State's Child Protective Services offices and employees across the state. As Chief Council, Director Wareing worked closely with key stakeholders to implement sweeping new legislation designed to improve Arizona's process for handling juvenile dependency cases. Additionally, under her leadership, the Attorney General's Office helped launch several new initiatives aimed at improving safety and services for the children and families of Arizona on issues such as domestic violence, mediation and substance abuse.

Between 1993 and 1999, Director Wareing practiced law at the national law firm of Steptoe & Johnson, where she served as an associate attorney focusing on complex corporate litigation. Throughout the 1990's, she served in various leadership positions with the local, state and American bar associations, including President of the Maricopa County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division.

Director Wareing serves on several State and National Boards, including the Governor's Children's Cabinet, the Interagency and Community Council on Homelessness, the Early Childhood Development and Health Board and the American Public Human Services Association.

Director Wareing has lived in Arizona since her high school years, and graduated *summa cum laude* from the University Of Arizona College Of Law in 1993, and received her Bachelor of Arts in political science, *magna cum laude*, from the University of Arizona in 1990.